

BYU's Aspen Grove retreat dedicated

Families are the focus of Pres. Monson's talk

By Rob Rogers

Deseret News staff writer

PROVO — President Thomas S. Monson waxed nostalgic Sunday about fishing, camping and growing up in Provo Canyon.

At a dedication ceremony for Aspen Grove, a retreat above Sundance owned by Brigham Young University, President Monson, first counselor in the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, spoke about his childhood in Provo Canyon, spending time at Aspen Grove and the importance of having a place where families can retreat.

"It's a majestic place, isn't it?" he said. "We feel so much at home here."

Because Aspen Grove is used as a get-away for many families, President Monson spoke about the eternal nature of families, and said Aspen Grove should be used as a place to draw families together.

"I believe our Heavenly Father has watched over the development of Aspen Grove," he said.

In his dedication of the facilities, President Monson called for protection of the buildings from flood and fire, asked that the buildings would prosper as the site grew and that the natural set-



President Monson recalls childhood experiences as he dedicates the Aspen Grove Conference Center.

ting would be a place that could draw families together.

"This is a veritable rose garden for the December of our lives," he said.

President Monson, whose family has come to Aspen Grove for years, has given firesides in the mountain retreat every summer for the past 14 years. He said he is very much tied to the place.

President Monson said his childhood is tied to Provo Canyon and that he caught his first fish in Provo River. He spoke about his childhood being a Huckleberry Finn childhood.

He also talked about Boy Scouting. Despite public sentiment, he said he believes the

organization still does much good for young men.

"I'm still a personal advocate of the great good Scouting brings to the life of young men," he said.

Russell Booth, president of the BYU Alumni Association, said the Aspen Grove facilities reflect the nature around them. He said Aspen Grove is environment friendly and unique because of its faith-centered programs.

"Aspen Grove is a place to learn," he said. He told listeners at Aspen Grove people learn about nature, about simplicity and about peace. He said it's also a place to learn about the worth of families.

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President Thomas S. Monson

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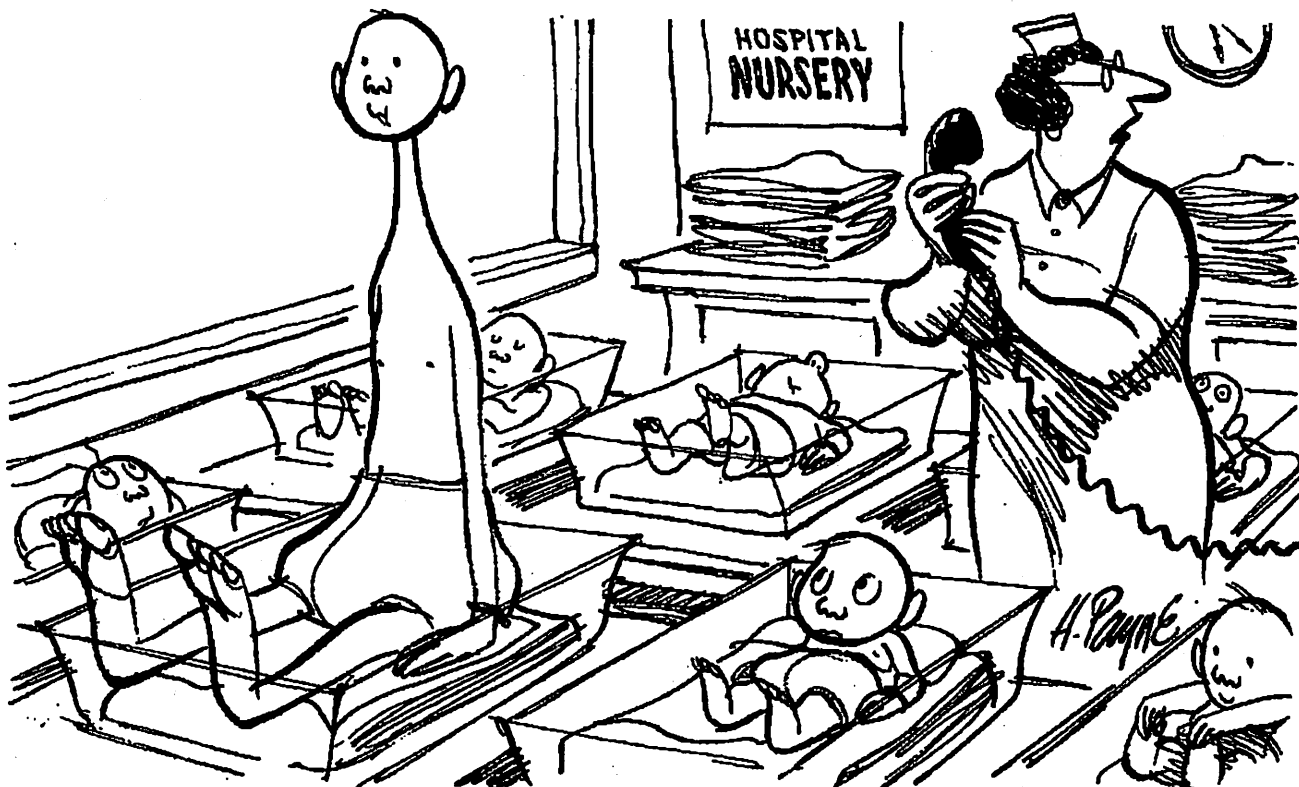
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"IT'S THE NBA. THEY THINK HE HAS ENORMOUS POTENTIAL.
... AND HE JUST WENT #1 IN THE DRAFT."

Just say 'no' to renewing nuclear tests

By Steve Erickson
and Preston J. Truman

Is the Bush administration preparing to break out of the nuclear weapons testing moratorium?

My view Recent statements and actions by top players within the administration and its shadow cabinet of unreconstructed Cold Warriors may just be trial balloons to test the waters to see if anyone will object to a resumption of testing and change

In a March 12 letter to Secretary of State Colin Powell, Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Jesse Helms called on the administration to repudiate the signed but unratified Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. The New York Times reported May 9 that Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld seems more inclined to deploy missile defenses and develop nuclear forces than to negotiate with Russia or China.

In April and May, the U.S. accused the Chinese of preparing for a nuclear

every president since Eisenhower that has kept Armageddon at bay. These policy maneuverings threaten a costly and dangerous new arms race and are alarming to our allies as well as our adversaries. Most alarming to the constituents of Utah's congressional delegation is the prospect of more nuclear tests upwind, especially those who have suffered painful losses and grievous wrongs from being unwitting "active participants in the nation's nuclear weapons program." Despite the commendable